

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A geodesic structure comprising a plurality of hub elements, each hub  
2 element having a vertex at a first end and a hub base at a second end that is  
3 opposite said first end, an angular deficit  $\alpha$ , wherein said hub elements are  
4 randomly arranged adjacent to one another so as to form said geodesic structure.
- 1 2. The geodesic structure of **Claim 1**, wherein said hub element is a right  
2 cylindrical cone, and wherein, in an orthogonal elevational view of said hub element,  
3 said vertex connects a first hub side and a second hub side,  
4 wherein an external angle  $\theta$  is formed between said second hub side and a  
5 first imaginary line extending straight from said first hub side beyond said vertex,  
6 and  
7 wherein an internal angle  $\beta$  is formed between a second imaginary line that  
8 extends vertically from said vertex toward said base and either one of said first hub  
9 side or said second hub side.
- 1 3. The geodesic structure of **Claim 2**,  
2 wherein said geodesic structure has an angle of structure that is a function of  
3 said angular deficit  $\alpha$ .
- 1 4. The geodesic structure of **Claim 3**, wherein said angle of structure is equal to  
2 an average value of said external angle  $\theta$  of all said hub elements.
- 1 5. The geodesic structure of **Claim 4**, wherein said plurality of hub elements  
2 includes at least one group of elements that are identical in size and said angle of  
3 structure is equal to an average value of said external angle  $\theta$  of all said hub  
4 elements.
- 1 6. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 4**, wherein said plurality of hub  
2 elements includes more than one group of hub elements and said hub elements  
3 within each group are identical in size, and wherein said angle of structure is equal

4 to an average value of said external angle  $\theta$  of all of said hub elements in said  
5 geodesic structure.

1 7. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 6**, wherein said plurality includes  
2 two groups of hub elements and said hub elements are arranged in an alternating  
3 pattern.

1 8. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 1** further comprising a virtual strut  
2 having a strut length, said virtual strut extending as a straight line between any two  
3 adjacent vertexes of said hub elements.

1 9. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 1**, wherein said structure is a  
2 semi-spherical dome.

1 10. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 1**, wherein said structure is a  
2 sphere.

1 11. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 1**, wherein said structure  
2 represents a map of a spherical body.

1 12. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 11**, wherein said map is a globe.

1 13. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 12**, wherein said map is a flat,  
2 two-dimensional representation of said spherical body.

1 14. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 1**, wherein said hub element is a  
2 cone.

1 15. The geodesic structure according to **Claim 14**, wherein said cone is  
2 fabricated of sheet material from the group consisting of metals, paper fiber  
3 products, wood fiber products, plastics, woven materials, pressed materials, and  
4 coated materials.

1       **16.**   The geodesic structure according to **Claim 15**, wherein said hub elements  
2       are arranged in an overlapping fashion so as to provide a closed surface.

1       **17.**   The geodesic structure according to **Claim 1**, wherein said hub element is a  
2       tensegrity element composed of a rigidly flexible compression component and a  
3       tension component.

1       **18.**   The geodesic structure according to **Claim 17**, wherein said compression  
2       component is a frame of rigidly flexible material, formed of two or more long slender  
3       compression elements that are placed cross-wise over each other, with ends of said  
4       compression elements extending outward, and said tension component is a chord  
5       forming an outer perimeter of said tensegrity element and forcing said frame into a  
6       convex-concave shape by applying a compression force on said ends of said  
7       compression elements.

1       **19.**   The geodesic structure according to **Claim 18**, wherein said compression  
2       component is formed of three long slender compression elements placed cross-wise  
3       over each other so as to form a hexagonal shape.

1       **20.**   The geodesic structure according to **Claim 19**, wherein said ends of said  
2       tensegrity element are connected to corresponding ends of adjacent tensegrity  
3       elements.

1       **21.**   The geodesic structure according to **Claim 20** further comprising a skin that  
2       covers said hub elements to form an enclosed space with said geodesic structure.

1       **22.**   The geodesic structure according to **Claim 1**, wherein said hub element is a  
2       truncated cone

1       **23.**   The geodesic structure according to **Claim 1**, wherein said hub element is a  
2       three-sided tapered hollow element.